

BEST PRACTICE CATALOG

Project Title: **SANTA'S WORKSHOP**

Function Category: ☒ PATIENT-FOCUSED ☐ ORGANIZATION ☐ STRUCTURES

Subcategory: **Care of Patients**

Heading: **Programming**

Key Word(s): **Gifts, Support Systems**

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Hospital: **Atascadero State Hospital**

Purpose: Patients cannot go into the community to shop. Santa's Workshop gives the patients a chance to select gift items to send home to family and/or friends during the holiday season. These gifts are free to the patients. They are donated by companies or purchased with funds raised by the hospital volunteers during the year.

Brief Description: The gym is transformed into a decorated mini-mall offering a wonderland of gift items. Volunteers take the patients around the workshop one-on-one to choose gifts for mom, dad, kids or friends. Each item is gift wrapped and tagged with the persons name it is intended for, and then gifts are boxed by patients and staff and mailed out through the post office in time for the holidays. Patients without family are encouraged to shop for the homeless. These gifts are delivered to the homeless shelter in mid-December.

Selection Basis/Criteria: Open to all hospital patients and available staff.

The following items are available regarding this Best Practice:

☒ Photographs ☐ Video Tape ☐ Drawings ☐ Manual

☐ Other : _____

DATE SUBMITTED: **September 25, 1998**

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